

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2245

Introduced by Assembly Member Hill

February 18, 2010

An act to amend Section 27000 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2245, as amended, Hill. Vehicles: ~~horns~~. *aftermarket horns: decibel levels.*

Existing law requires a motor vehicle, when operated upon a highway, to be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 200 feet, but prohibits a horn from emitting an unreasonably loud or harsh sound. A violation of the vehicle code is a crime.

This bill would ~~instead prohibit a horn from emitting an unreasonably harsh sound or a sound level that is greater than an unspecified level of decibels~~ *prohibit a motor vehicle from being equipped with an aftermarket horn that emits a sound greater than 110 dB(A).* By ~~expanding the scope of an existing crime~~ *creating a new crime*, this bill would ~~create~~ *impose* a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 27000 of the Vehicle Code is amended
2 to read:
3 27000. (a) A motor vehicle, when operated upon a highway,
4 shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable
5 of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance
6 of not less than 200 feet, but a horn shall not emit an unreasonably
7 ~~loud or harsh sound or a sound level that is greater than~~
8 ~~_____decibels~~ and a motor vehicle shall not be equipped with
9 ~~an aftermarket horn that emits a sound greater than 110 dB(A).~~
10 An authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with, and use
11 in conjunction with the siren on that vehicle, an air horn that emits
12 sounds that do not comply with the requirements of this section.
13 (b) A refuse or garbage truck shall be equipped with an
14 automatic backup audible alarm that sounds on backing and is
15 capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from
16 a distance of not less than 100 feet or shall be equipped with an
17 automatic backup device that is in good working order, located at
18 the rear of the vehicle and that immediately applies the service
19 brake of the vehicle on contact by the vehicle with any obstruction
20 to the rear. The backup device or alarm shall also be capable of
21 operating automatically when the vehicle is in neutral or a forward
22 gear but rolls backward.
23 (c) A refuse or garbage truck, except a vehicle, known as a
24 rolloff vehicle, that is used for the express purpose of transporting
25 waste containers such as open boxes or compactors, purchased
26 after January 1, 2010, shall also be equipped with a functioning
27 camera providing a video display for the driver that enhances or
28 supplements the drivers' view behind the truck for the purpose of
29 safely maneuvering the truck.
30 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
31 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
32 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
33 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
34 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
35 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of

1 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
2 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
3 Constitution.

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